VZCZCXRO0696 OO RUEHROV DE RUEHFR #1431 0661152 ZNY CCCCC ZZH O 071152Z MAR 06 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4886 INFO RUCNFUR/DARFUR COLLECTIVE RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 1030 RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 0682 RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 0676 RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS 0696 RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 0731 RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 1179 RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0080 RUEHLC/AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE 1032 RUEHPC/AMEMBASSY LOME 0807 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 5972 RUEHTO/AMEMBASSY MAPUTO 0388 RUEHMR/AMEMBASSY MASERU 0214 RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 1065 RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO 1337 RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 1884 RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 1066 RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 2381 RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA 1513 RUEHYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 0838 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 2253 RUEHTRO/USLO TRIPOLI 0042 RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0671 RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS 1558

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SUBJECT: SUDAN/AMIS: FRENCH SHARE U.S. VIEW

REF: STATE 36548

Classified By: Political Minister-Counselor Josiah Rosenblatt, reasons 1.4 (b/d).

- 11. (C) MFA Sudan deskoff Jerome Robert on March 7 confirmed that France shared the U.S. position on transforming the African Union's Mission in Sudan (AMIS) into a UN operation. "We agree with you 100 percent on the need to turn AMIS into a UN mission," Robert stated in response to reftel demarche.
- 12. (C) Unlike the U.S., however, Robert said that France was not carrying out a comprehensive series of demarches on this subject. That said, he assured us that French officials were stressing the importance of the transformation in their meetings with Africans and others involved in the issue. He cited, for example, the recent visit to France of AU Chairman and Republic of the Congo President Sassou-Nguesso, during which the French emphasized to him directly the importance of replacing AMIS with a UN mission. Robert said that France had conveyed a similar message in Addis Ababa to AU Commission Chairman Konare. French officials had also raised the issue and stressed its importance in recent discussions in Tripoli and Cairo with, respectively, Libyan and Egyptian officials. Robert said that France had urged Libya and Egypt to avoid causing problems by not raising "unnecessary complications."
- 13. (C) Robert said that France was following the AMIS issue closely and would take every opportunity between now and March 10 to reinforce with its interlocutors the need to

effect a speedy transformation of AMIS into a UN operation. He said the GOF appreciated the strong leadership role the U.S. was displaying to achieve this shared objective.

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